

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /060 W

----- 027771

R 141655Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1796

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 3373

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAG: PFOR, DA, US

SUBJECT: FIRST OFFICIAL DANISH REACTION TO PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

REF: COPENHAGEN 3359 - PRESS ROUNDUP (NOTAL)

SUMMARY -- DANISH GOVERNMENT IS EXTREMELY PLEASED BY
PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT AND FEELS THAT IT HAS SERVED TO
STRENGTHEN DANISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

1. AMBASSADOR BORCH, POLITICAL DIRECTOR OF FONOFF AND
FUTURE AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, TOLD ME TODAY THAT PRIMIN
ANKER JORGENSEN AND MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY WERE EXTREMELY
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PLEASED BY THE WARM WELCOME IN WASHINGTON. PRIME

MINISTER APPRECIATED HIS CORDIAL RECEPTION AT THE WHITE HOUSE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT AND FELT THAT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF PROBLEMS HAD BEEN COVERED IN THE CONVERSATIONS. BORCH THOUGHT IT WAS PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY THAT ALTHOUGH SWEDISH PRIMIN PALME WAS IN SOUTH AMERICAN AT THE SAME TIME AS JORGENSEN, HE RETURNED HOME VIA CUBA AND WAS NOT RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON WHEREAS JORGENSEN WENT STRAIGHT TO WASHINGTON AND WAS RECEIVED. THE DANES ARE INTERPRETING THIS AS A SPECIAL SIGN OF FRIENDSHIP ON THE PART OF USG AND BY THE SAME TOEKN HOPE THAT PRIMIN'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON WOULD DEMONSTRATE T AMERICANS THAT DANISH ATTITUDES TOWARD US WERE MORE FRIENDLY THAN THOSE OF SOME OF NORDIC NEIGHBORS.

2. BORCH ALSO SAID THAT THE DANES WERE GRAITIFED BY THE SOLUTION TO CANNED HAM STITUATON BUT UNDERSTOOD THE NEED FOR KEEPING THIS SOLUTION CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL ANNOUNCEMENT COULD BE MADE BY EEC, GIVEN MULTILATERAL ASPECTS OF PROBLEM. (ONLY MARK OF DISAPPOINTMENT INTODAY'S PRESS STORY ABOUT PRIMIN'S VISIT WAS FACT THAT SOLUTION TO CANNED HAM PROBLEM HAD NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED).

3. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS LAST NIGHT WITH FORMER PRIMIN HARTLING AND PERM UNDER SECRETARY EIGIL JORGENSEN THE POINT WAS MADE TO ME THAT THE VISIT TO WASHINGTON BY THE PRIMIN AND HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE WELCOME AFFORDED HIM THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT SIGN THAT PRIMIN (AND MOST OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY WITH HIM) HAD MOVED BACK TOWARD THE CENTER AND AWAY FROM SOME OF THE MORE RADICAL POSITONS THEY HAD TAKEN IN PAST YEARS. HARTLING, THOUGH HE IS, IN EFFECT, THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, SAID THAT PRIMIN'S VISIT WAS A "VERY GOOD THING FOR DENMARK" AND SHOWED THAT PRIMIN JORGENSEN NOW REALIZED, AS HE HARTLING HAD ALWAYS DONE, THAT THE "US WAS DENMARK'S CLOSEST FRIEND AND ALLY".

4. PRIMIN JORGENSEN AND MEMBERS OF HIS ENTOURAGE WERE RESTING UP TODAY FROM THEIR TRIP AND THEN WILL HEAD FOR NORDIC MEETINGS THIS WEEKEND. I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH HIM NOV. 19 AND WILL ALSO BE SEEING HIS TOP ASSISTANT, GERSING, AND OTHERS TO PICK UP FURTHER REACTIONS TO THE VISIT.
DEAN
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975COPENH03373
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750398-0832
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751143/aaaabmab.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 COPENHAGEN 3359
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <30 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST OFFICIAL DANISH REACTION TO PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT
TAGS: OVIP, DA, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (JORGENSEN, ANKER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006